



**Australian  
Bureau of  
Statistics**

# Western Australia at a Glance 2011



Western Australia had an estimated population of 2,296,411 in June 2010, accounting for 10.3% of Australia's population.

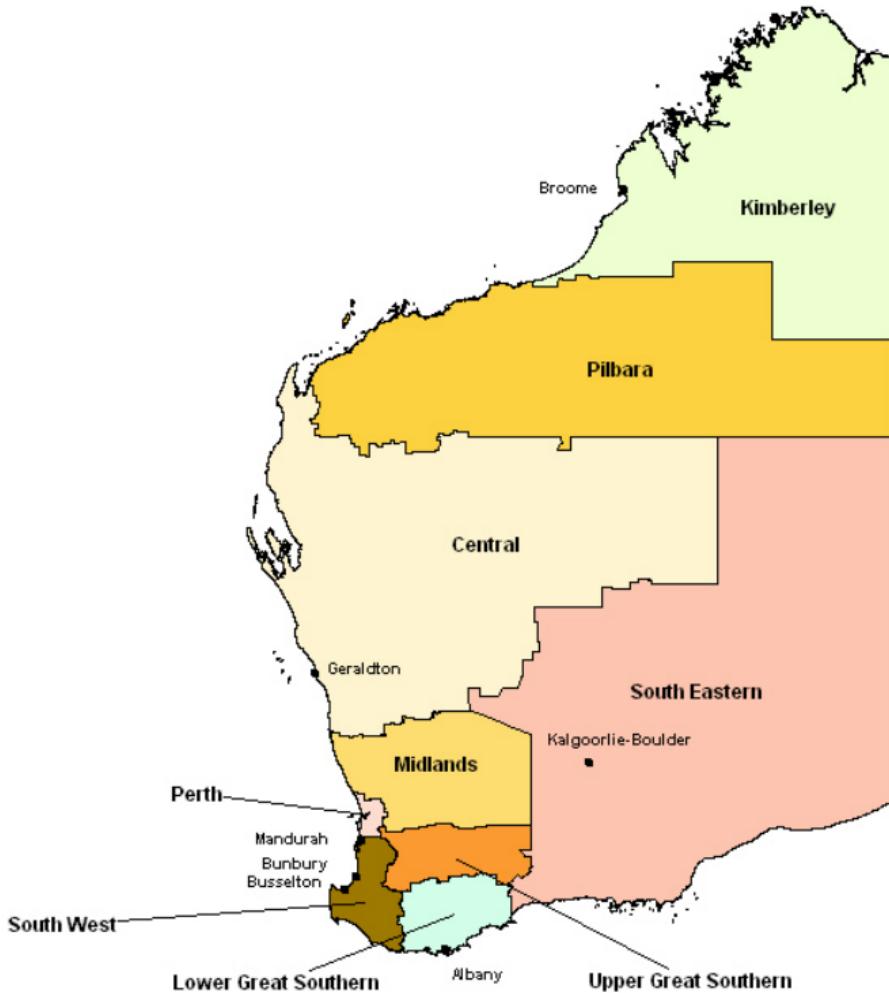
Western Australia has the largest land area (2,532,400 sq km) of any Australian State or Territory. Its coastline of 12,500km amounts to 34% of Australia's total coastline.

The State's capital, Perth, was founded on 12 August 1829 and the Perth metropolitan area contains almost three quarters (73%) of Western Australia's total population.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA

% of Australian total

Area	32.9
Coastline	34.0
<b>Demography</b>	
Estimated resident population (June 2010)	10.3
<b>Labour force</b>	
Employed persons (December 2010)	10.8
Unemployed persons (December 2010)	8.7
<b>International Trade (Value)</b>	
Imports (2009-10)	13.7
Exports (2009-10)	41.5



## PEOPLE

### ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION (June)<sup>1</sup>

	2009 '000	2010 '000
Males	1 139.4	1 164.6
Females	1 107.9	1 131.9
Persons	2 247.3	2 296.4
under 15 years	438.5	446.1
15-19 years	156.4	157.3
20-29 years	335.1	347.5
30-39 years	323.1	327.5
40-49 years	326.2	331.2
50-59 years	283.4	289.6
60-64 years	115.1	120.4
65 years and over	267.3	276.9

### WA Statistical Divisions

Perth	1 659.0	na
South West	246.2	na
Lower Great Southern	58.9	na
Upper Great Southern	19.2	na
Midlands	55.7	na
South Eastern	58.7	na
Central	64.8	na
Pilbara	47.5	na
Kimberley	35.0	na

1 Preliminary estimates based on 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

## DEMOGRAPHY

	2008 no.	2009 no.
Live births	31 850	30 878
Deaths	12 752	12 566
Marriages	12 367	12 184
Divorces	4 718	4 767

### Crude rate (per 1,000 persons)<sup>1</sup>

Births	14.6	13.7
Deaths	5.9	5.6
Marriages	5.7	5.4
Divorces	2.2	2.1

1 Based on mean estimated resident population at 30 June.

## CENSUS POPULATION (Proportion of WA total)<sup>1</sup>

	2001	2006
	%	%
<b>Birthplace</b>		
Australia	67.7	65.3
United Kingdom	11.1	10.6
New Zealand	2.5	2.4
South Africa	0.8	1.1
Italy	1.3	1.1
<b>Religious affiliation</b>		
Catholic	24.8	23.7
Anglican	22.6	20.4
Other religious affiliation	32.9	33.0
No religious affiliation	19.7	22.9

1 Census of Population and Housing. Based on place of usual residence.

## EDUCATION

	2009	2010
	no.	no.
<b>Full time students</b>		
Government	233 499	233 839
Non-government	122 356	124 530
<b>Schools</b>		
Government	771	768
Non-government	296	297
<b>International students</b>		
(Non-permanent education arrivals by air)		
Malaysia	7 184	7 321
China	5 936	7 386
Singapore	5 782	6 048
Indonesia	3 507	3 613
Other countries	29 451	28 374
All international students	51 860	52 742

## AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (August)<sup>1</sup>

	2009	2010
	\$	\$
<b>Males</b>		
Males	1 426.00	1 507.20
<b>Females</b>		
Females	1 078.90	1 137.50
<b>Persons</b>		
Persons	1 310.10	1 384.10

1 Full time adult ordinary time earnings, Trend.

## LABOUR MARKET (December)<sup>1</sup>

	2009 '000	2010 '000
	%	%
Employed persons	1 185.8	1 224.3
Unemployed persons	64.2	58.4
<b>Total labour force</b>	<b>1 250.0</b>	<b>1 282.7</b>
Unemployment rate	5.1	4.4
	'000	'000
<b>Largest employing industries<sup>2</sup></b>		
Construction	127.0	136.4
Health Care and Social Assistance	115.1	121.2
Retail	128.2	120.4
Education and Training	98.4	97.7

1 Trend

2 Original

## LABOUR MOBILITY AND INTENTIONS

ALL PERSONS WHO MOVED TO WA IN PAST 3 YEARS, BY PLACE OF ORIGIN - 2008

	Persons	
	Came from Interstate '000	Came from Overseas '000
<b>Household type</b>		
Person living alone	4.9	3.9
Couple only	13.1	24.0
Couple with children	23.4	38.1
Lone Parent with Children	1.1	4.1
Other	13.2	23.1
<b>Reason for moving to WA</b>		
Work opportunities	29.0	39.9
Other reasons	26.4	52.9

## ECONOMY

### STATE ACCOUNTS

	2008/09 \$m	2009/10 \$m
Gross State Product <sup>1</sup>	180 008	187 834
Gross State Product per capita <sup>1</sup>	81 317	82 653
	%	%

#### Largest contributing industries<sup>2</sup>

Mining	30.5	31.9
Construction	10.4	10.3
Manufacturing	7.1	6.6

1 Chain volume measure

2 Current prices

### HOUSE PRICE INDEX<sup>1</sup>

	2008/09 %	2009/10 %
Established homes	-5.5	10.1
Project homes	3.2	1.7

1 Percentage change from previous financial year.

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX<sup>1</sup>

	2008/09 %	2009/10 %
Food	4.6	1.6
Alcohol and tobacco	5.6	4.8
Clothing and footwear	-1.7	-2.1
Housing	5.6	5.2
Household contents and services	2.2	2.3
Health	5.3	5.2
Transportation	-1.3	1.1
Communication	0.8	0.4
Recreation	0.5	1.6
Education	6.5	6.6
Financial and insurance services	2.5	-1.0
<b>All groups</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>

1 Percentage change from previous financial year.

## ECONOMY

### IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

	2008/09	2009/10
	\$m	\$m
Imports	33 097	27 922
Exports	86 880	83 038
<b>Imports from:</b>		
Thailand	3 883	4 528
United States	3 695	2 820
China	2 515	2 819
<b>Exports to:</b>		
China	26 140	30 772
Japan	17 353	14 245
India	6 421	8 584
<b>Major commodities exported:</b>		
Iron ore	33 529	34 111
Gold bullion	16 848	13 659
Crude petroleum oils	7 863	9 810

## INDUSTRY

### RETAIL TRADE<sup>1</sup>

	2008/09	2009/10
	\$m	\$m
Food	10 302	10 621
Department stores	2 059	2 093
Clothing, footwear & personal accessories	2 032	1 902
Household goods	4 679	4 807
Other retailing	2 926	3 190
Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services	3 161	3 481
<b>Total<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>25 125</b>	<b>26 090</b>

1 Retail turnover in current prices, Trend.

2 Component items may not sum to the total due to rounding.

## BUILDING

	2008/09	2009/10
	no.	no.
<b>New residential building</b>		
Approved	19 269	25 318
Completed	21 975	22 229
<b>Average value of new residential building</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Approved	262 457	249 333
Completed	284 862	296 752
<b>Total value of non-residential building</b>	<b>\$m</b>	<b>\$m</b>
Approved	2 886.5	6 296.7
Completed	3 820.7	3 846.5

## MINING

	2008/09	2009/10
<b>Production<sup>1</sup></b>		
Iron ore ('000t)	341 710	410 206
Gold (t)	140	166
<b>Exploration expenditure</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Minerals	1 246.8	1 244.1
Petroleum	2 945.1	2 484.6

1 Source: Australian Mineral Statistics 2010,  
Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

## AGRICULTURE

	2008/09	2009/10
<b>Crop production</b>		
Wheat for grain ('000t)	8 161	8 148
Barley for grain ('000t)	2 808	2 552
<b>Livestock numbers</b>		
Sheep and lambs ('000)	15 516	14 654
Meat cattle ('000)	1 997	2 310

## TOURISM

	2008/09	2009/10
<b>Short term overseas holiday travel</b>	no.	no.
Resident departures	472 599	624 570
Visitor arrivals	235 792	238 774
<b>Holiday arrivals - country of origin</b>	%	%
United Kingdom and Ireland	23.9	21.9
Singapore	17.7	17.9
Rest of Europe	14.1	14.8
<b>Holiday departures - main destination</b>	%	%
Indonesia	30.8	41.6
Thailand	11.7	9.6
Singapore	7.5	6.0

# ENVIRONMENT

## CLIMATE

	Mean daily temperature <sup>1</sup>				Mean annual rainfall <sup>2</sup> (mm)	
	Summer (Jan)		Winter (Jul)			
	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Min (°C)		
Perth (Metro)	33.4	18.9	18.2	5.9	850.0	
Albany (Town)	23.0	16.4	16.6	8.3	929.7	
Broome	33.0	26.6	28.9	18.2	603.0	
Bunbury	31.6	15.5	17.3	5.3	839.9	
Esperance	27.6	16.1	17.4	7.7	617.3	
Geraldton (Airport)	32.9	18.3	19.3	6.8	446.2	
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (Airport)	36.6	19.8	16.8	4.6	264.4	
Mandurah	31.5	19.4	17.1	9.4	858.4	
Port Hedland (Airport)	37.1	26.6	27.6	16.1	309.8	

Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2010, Perth, <<http://www.bom.gov.au>>.

1 Mean daily temperature relates to 2010 data only

2 Mean annual rainfall relates to 2010 and all previously recorded data.

## SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

°C	degrees Celsius	na	not available
\$	dollars	%	percent
km	kilometres	sq km	square kilometres
mm	millimetres	'000	thousand
WA	Western Australia	t	tonnes
\$m	million dollars	no.	number

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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